

Remarks

Introduction

Claims 106-145 were pending in this application.

The Examiner rejected claims 106-114, 116-124, 126-134 and 136-144 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Schein et al. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0196201 ("Schein") in view of Sampsell U.S. Patent No. 6,219,839 ("Sampsell"). The Examiner rejected claims 115, 125, 135 and 145 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Schein in view of Sampsell and in further view of Goldschmidt Iki et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,226,444 ("Goldschmidt").

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections.

Applicants' Reply

Applicants' invention, as defined by independent claims 106, 116, 126 and 136, is directed to providing a user with access to broadcast television programs and recorded programs stored on a digital storage device. Programs are recorded on the storage device, and a list of selectable options is provided to the user. The list includes a first selectable option that allows the user to access a list of selectable program listings having at least one selectable program listing for a broadcast television program and at least one selectable program listing for a recorded program stored on the digital storage device. The list also includes a second selectable option that allows the user to access a list of recorded programs stored on the digital storage device. A user selection of a recorded program from the list of selectable program listings is received, and the recorded program is played from the digital storage device in response.

The Examiner admits that Schein does not disclose playing a recorded program in response to receiving a user selection of a recorded program from a list of selectable program listings. However, the Examiner relies on Sampsell to make up for this deficiency in Schein (*see* Office Action, page 4).

Sampsell refers to displaying DVD programming in a row associated with a DVD (*see* presence row 102 in FIG. 9 of Sampsell). Sampsell also refers to providing on-screen controls for video stream functions (*see* controls 104 in FIG. 10 of Sampsell). However,

Sampsell does not show or suggest controlling video streams with a listing in the row associated with the DVD. At most, Sampsell refers to allowing a user to either view DVD programming in a row in the program guide or to perform unspecified video stream functions using on-screen controls. Nowhere does Sampsell show or suggest playing a recorded program in response to the selection of a listing for the recorded program from the row associated with the DVD (or from any other rows in the program guide). Accordingly, the combination of Schein and Sampsell fails to disclose "playing the recorded program from the digital storage device in response to receiving the user selection of the recorded program from the list of selectable program listings," as recited by independent claims 106, 116, 126 and 136.

Furthermore, Goldschmidt, which the Examiner uses in the rejection of other elements of applicants' dependent claims, do not make up for the deficiencies of Schein and Sampsell relative to the rejection.

For at least these reasons, applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 106, 116, 126 and 136 are allowable over the art of record. Since dependent claims 107-115, 117-125, 127-135 and 137-145 depend respectively from independent claims 106, 116, 126 and 136, dependent claims 107-115, 117-125, 127-135 and 137-145 are also allowable over the art of record. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the § 103(a) rejections of claims 106-145 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

The foregoing demonstrates that this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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